

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. The amendment places the application in condition for allowance and is, therefore, appropriate under Rule 116.

By the present amendment, claim 3 is canceled, and the subject matter of claim 3 is incorporated in claim 1. Claim 1 is also amended to correct a formal error therein. Claim 4 is amended to provide it proper dependency.

Based on the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and Action to that end is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 3-8 would become allowable upon having been rewritten in independent form (claim 3), including all of the limitation of the base claim and any interviewing claims. Amending claim 1 by incorporating therein the subject matter of claim 3 is tantamount to rewriting claim 3 in independent form.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is in condition for allowance, together with claims 2 and 4-11 dependent on claim 1, directly or indirectly.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place the case in condition for final allowance, it is respectfully requested that such amendment or correction be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



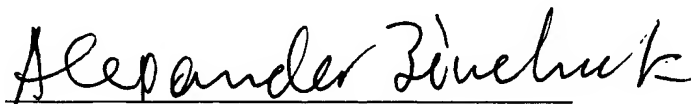
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